K-State Research and Extension, Department of Agricultural Economics, and Kansas Farm Management Association

Building Strong Relationships … Producing Excellence

TITLE: EXECUTIVE EXTENSION AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIST, KANSAS FARM MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION, SOUTH CENTRAL

This is a joint appointment between KFMA SC and K-State Research and Extension with funding provided jointly.

Kansas Farm Management Association, South Central (KFMA, SC), located in Hutchinson, Kansas, provides a farm business analysis educational program to member farm families in an 11 county area. Principal crops are wheat, corn, grain sorghum and soybeans. Beef cows and backgrounding are major livestock enterprises. Average farm size is 1,900 acres.

LOCATION: Hutchinson, Kansas

APPLICATION DATE: Screening of applications will begin on March 25, 2016 and continue until the position is filled. Please submit a cover letter, resume, three reference letters, and all official transcripts to assure a review. The starting date for the position is on or after June 6, 2016 and is negotiable with the KFMA, SC Board of Directors and KFMA Administrator.

KFMA VISION:
The Kansas Farm Management Association (KFMA), through its affiliation with K-State Research and Extension, will be the valued and trusted provider of integrated data management systems to apply critical thinking and strategic business planning for farm and ranch decision makers; and will be the premier source of farm-level economic data in the world.

KFMA MISSION AND PURPOSE:
- To work as an efficient team of economists, serving on the management team for KFMA member farms, as a farm business management resource.
- To provide high quality and timely farm recordkeeping, financial analysis and tax management.
- To achieve the goal of improved farm and family decision making, resulting in increased farm profitability and sustainability.

RESPONSIBILITIES: The Executive Economist is responsible for directing and supervising the KFMA Program in the local association. The KFMA program seeks to deliver an Extension educational farm business management program for commercial farms cooperating with the Farm Management Association and to provide technical expertise to the area Extension educational program in farm management. Specific responsibilities of this position include:

1) Direct and supervise the program delivery and administrative activities of the association according the KFMA SC Board and K-State directed policies and procedures. This will include management of the association finances according to the board approved budget; oversight and evaluation of other economists in the association; hiring and oversight of association support staff; and, guide and work together with other KFMA SC Economists in accomplishing the following:

2) Develop and maintain membership of approximately 70 cooperating commercial farms representative of south central Kansas agriculture.

3) Provide an educational program to commercial farms resulting in the development of financial and production information for comparable economic analysis.

4) Provide agricultural accounting, estate planning, business entity structure, and tax management guidance to commercial farm families.

5) Utilize KFMA program procedures to collect, process, and verify information from commercial farms suitable for comparable analysis and utilization by K-State Research and Extension for research, teaching, and Extension programs.

6) Develop and provide educational programs with commercial farms to further understanding and application of economic principles utilizing comparative management information.

7) Support county, area, and state research and Extension by providing technical expertise in the economic analysis of comparable commercial farm financial and production information.

8) Opportunity to work with South Central Kansas Agricultural Tax Service on final tax return preparation. (Leave days taken from Extension position to complete this activity)
QUALIFICATIONS

Required:
• College degree in Agricultural Economics, Accounting, Finance or related field
• At least five years of acceptable performance in a position in one of the following areas: agricultural economics, agricultural finance, agribusiness, accounting or closely related field
• Strong leadership and management skills as demonstrated in previous experiences
• Demonstrated ability to effectively communicate with individuals and groups
• Proven ability to effectively utilize computer technology, software and applications
• Good understanding of the agriculture industry and the ability to communicate and teach sound farm accounting principles and economic relationships in agriculture
• Evidence of solid planning, prioritization and organizational skills
• Minimum of 6 hours of courses in accounting

Preferred:
• Master’s degree in Agricultural Economics, Accounting, Finance or related field
• History of acceptable performance working as a Farm Management Economist or in a similar position
• At least three years of effective supervisory or mentoring experience

SALARY: Commensurate with qualifications of the applicant as negotiated by the Department of Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University; and, the Board of Directors of Kansas Farm Management Association, South Central.

BENEFITS: This is an unclassified position in the Department of Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University. The K-State benefit package includes a retirement plan, group health and life insurance, worker’s compensation, vacation, sick leave and other benefits. For additional information on benefits, see http://www.k-state.edu/hcs/benefits/overview/.

Travel, primarily within the association area but also around Kansas, will be required for the position. Reimbursement for travel and subsistence related to achieving program objectives including either use of an association provided vehicle or mileage reimbursement will be provided.

HOW TO APPLY:
Send cover letter, resume, and official transcripts; and, arrange for three letters of reference to be sent. Application material may be sent electronically to Mary Huninghake (mhuningh@ksu.edu) or may be mailed to:

Mary Huninghake, Senior Administrative Assistant
K-State Research and Extension
Department of Agricultural Economics - KSU
304 Waters Hall
1603 Old Claflin Place
Manhattan, KS 66506-4026
(785) 532-1506 FAX: (785) 532-6925

Electronic applications are encouraged.

If selected for the position, the applicant will grant permission to Kansas State University’s Human Capital Services for a background check to be completed. Employment will be contingent upon the results of those findings.

For more information, contact: Kevin Herbel, Executive Director, Kansas Farm Management Association Program. Office/Mobile: (785)532-8706; or, e-mail: kherbel@ksu.edu. The KFMA program website is www.AgManager.info/KFMA

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: Kansas State University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer of individuals with disabilities and protected veterans. Kansas State University encourages diversity among its employees. KSRE EEO Coordinator: Stacey M. Warner, 121 Umberger Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506. KSRE EEO Counselor: Daryl D. Buchholz, 123 Umberger Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506.